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Amendment to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0027] with the following:

[0027] Fig. 2 illustrates the process of appending interval periods in inverted order (cf. steps 102 and 108 of figure 1). Time axis 200 illustrates the time domain of diphone signal A. The diphone signal A has an end interval 202 which contains periods $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_i, \dots, p_{N-1}, p_N$. In order to provide fade-out interval 204 periods p_i of the end interval 202 are appended at the end of the end interval 202 in inverted order. The last period p_N of the end interval 202 is not appended in order to avoid a repetition of two identical periods which would introduce an unintended periodicity. Such a periodicity could become audible under certain circumstances. It is therefore preferred not to repeat the least period p_N of the end interval 202. The first period p'_1 of the fade-out interval 204 is provided by copying the signal of period p_{N-1} . In general, period p'_j of fade-out interval 204 is obtained by appending period p_{N-j} from the end interval 202, i.e. $p'_j = p_{N-j}$. Time axis 206 is illustrative of the time domain of diphone signal B. Diphone signal B has a front interval 208 containing periods $P_1, P_2, \dots, P_i, \dots, P_{N-1}, P_N$. Fade-in interval 210 is provided by appending periods from front interval 208 at the beginning of front interval 208 in inverted order. Again it is preferred not to append the first period P_1 of the front interval 208 to avoid the introduction of unintended periodicity. In the general case a signal period P'_j is obtained from the period P_{N-j+1} of the front interval 208, i.e.

$P'_j = P_{N-j+1}$. For concatenating the diphone signal A and the diphone signal B, the end interval 202 and the fade-in interval 210 are overlapped and added as well as the fade-out interval 204 and front interval 208. In the example considered here this can be done without adapting the durations of the respective intervals, as the durations of the end interval 202 and the fade-in interval 210 as well as the durations of the fade-out interval 204 and the front interval 208 are the same.